



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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Contact: Rep. Amy Loudenbeck (608) 266-9967
Sen. Glenn Grothman (608) 266-7513

Voluntary Health Care Provider Bill Passes Final Legislative Hurdle *Legislation Will Help Free Medical Clinics Improve Service Delivery*

MADISON - Rep. Amy Loudenbeck (R-Clinton) and Sen. Glenn Grothman (R-West Bend), authors of a bill designed to improve the model for service delivery at free medical clinics across the state, was passed by the state Senate today and now moves to the governor for his signature.

“Volunteer health care providers are a vital link in Wisconsin’s health care delivery system and anything we can do to help these humanitarian institutions thrive is a step in the right direction,” said Sen. Grothman.

“Over 80 free clinics operating in the state rely on medical professionals to donate their services, and I am proud to have two free clinics in my district, HealthNet in Rock County and Open Arms in Walworth County. By improving on the free clinic model, clinics will be able to tap into additional community resources, operate with greater certainty and provide their patients with the best care possible,” said Rep. Loudenbeck.

Key provisions of Assembly Bill 270 include:

- Adds several categories to the list of health care professionals eligible to participate in the volunteer health care provider program including Advanced Practice Nurses with prescribing authority and mental health professionals
- Transfers primary administration of the program from the Department of Administration (DOA) to the Department of Health Services (DHS)
- Creates a new role for participating nonprofit agencies in which they are responsible for approving and monitoring the credentials of volunteers using an online database
- Expands dental services available at free clinics

A copy of the legislation is available at the following link:
<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2013/proposals/ab270>

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